

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot (1) suitable for permitting a bending action in correspondence with an articulation of the metatarsus phalange of the foot, the boot (1) comprising a containing hull for the foot, and a flexible articulation (7) which is arranged substantially in correspondence with a point of the hull (2) in order to permit the said bending action of the hull (2); the boot (1) being characterised by the fact that it comprises control means (10) of the bending action which are associated with the hull (2) and which are arranged in correspondence with the said flexible articulation (7).
2. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein said control means (10) of the bending action comprise at least two collapsible chambers (11) which are defined by respective walls (12) made of flexible material which are elastically correlated in relation to each other.
3. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 2, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the collapsible chambers (11) are arranged one after the other along and transverse to a longitudinal axis (A) of the boot (1) itself; the said walls (12) being connected along respective flexible hinges (13) which are arranged transverse to the longitudinal axis (A).
4. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 3, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the said collapsible chambers (11') are arranged partially overlapping along the said longitudinal axis (A).
5. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 3, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the said collapsible chambers (11'') are arranged totally overlapping along

the said longitudinal axis (A).

6. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~Claims 4 or 5~~, characterised by the fact that claim 4, wherein the said means (10) of the bending action comprise stiffening means (20) which are associated with the said walls (12) made of flexible material and are arranged parallel to the said longitudinal axis (A).

7. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 6, characterised by the fact that wherein said stiffening means (20) comprise a number of flaps (21) which are arranged parallel to the said axis (A) and which are distributed externally to the hull (2).

8. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 6, characterised by the fact that wherein the said stiffening means (20) comprise a number of shaped ribs (21") which are arranged along the said axis (A) and which are distributed externally to the hull (2).

9. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 6, characterised by the fact that wherein the said stiffening means (20) comprise a number of flaps (21'), which are arranged parallel in relation to each other and transverse to the said axis (A), and which are distributed between two successive collapsible chambers (11).

10. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~Claims 7, 8, or 9~~, characterised by the fact that claim 7, wherein the said stiffening means (20) comprise an external moulding (25) (26) (27) (27') which is suitable for increasing a resistance to bending action of the hull (2).

11. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 10, characterised by the fact that wherein the said moulding (25) is arranged parallel to the longitudinal axis (A).

12. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 11, characterised by the fact that wherein the said moulding (26) is S-shaped and is arranged along the longitudinal axis (A).

13. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 10, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the ~~said~~ moulding (27) is arranged at an incline in relation to the longitudinal axis (A).

14. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 13, ~~characterised by the fact of~~ comprising a further moulding (27') which is arranged at an incline in relation to the longitudinal axis (A) and which is crossed with the ~~said~~ moulding (27)(27').

15. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to any of the ~~Claims from 6 to 14,~~ ~~characterised by the fact that~~ claim 6, wherein the ~~said~~ stiffening means (20) comprise a support arch (30) which is arranged transverse to the ~~said~~ longitudinal axis (A), and which extends from one side to the other of the ~~said~~ hull (2).

16. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~any of the preceding Claims~~ ~~whatsoever,~~ ~~characterised by the fact that~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~said~~ control means (10) comprise a determined number of tongues (40) which are integral with the ~~said~~ hull (2) and which define a determined number of preferential bending lines (41) of the ~~said~~ flexible articulation (7).

17. (Currently Amended) Telemark book according to Claim 16, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the ~~said~~ control means (10) comprise two pairs of tongues (40) which extend opposite the ~~said~~ hull (2) one pair towards the other transverse to a longitudinal axis (A) of the hull (2) and which define two preferential bending lines (41); the tongues (40) of each pair of tongues (40) defining in relation to each other and with the hull (2) three respective loops (42) of variable extensions towards the ~~said~~ point (4).

18. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~Claims 16 or 17,~~ ~~characterised by the fact that~~ claim 16, wherein the ~~said~~ control means (10) comprise a frontal loop (42) which is defined by two tongues (40) which are arranged on opposite sides of the hull (2).

19. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~any of the Claims from 1 to 16,~~  
~~characterised by the fact that~~ claim 1, wherein the said control means (10) comprise two  
tongues (40), which extend from said point (4) on respective sides (3) of said hull (2), and  
an intermediate flexible bridge which is arranged between said tongues (40).

20. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~any of the preceding Claims~~  
~~whatsoever, characterised by the fact that that~~ claim 1, wherein the said control means  
(10) comprise a valve (50) which can be activated by the control means (10) themselves  
in order to regulate the flow of air into or out of the said hull (2).

21. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~any of the preceding Claims~~  
~~whatsoever, characterised by the fact that~~ claim 1, wherein the said means of control (10)  
comprise a flexion bracket (60) which is ~~couplet~~ coupled to said flexible articulation (7)  
and which extends longitudinally towards a collar (61) of the said hull (2).

22. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 21, ~~characterised by the fact~~  
~~that~~ wherein the said flexion bracket (60) is engaged in correspondence with the flexible  
articulation (7), and is further engaged on the said collar (61).

23. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact~~  
~~that~~ wherein the said control means (10) comprise a flexible frame (70) which is arranged  
in order to cover said flexible articulation (7).

24. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 23, ~~characterised by the fact~~  
~~that~~ wherein the said flexible frame (70) is defined by a plate (71) which is provided with  
a number of shaped holes (72).

25. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 23, ~~characterised by the fact~~  
~~that~~ wherein the said flexible frame (70) is defined by one or two sinuous ribs (73) which  
extend along a longitudinal axis (A) of said hull (2).

26. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 23, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the ~~said~~ flexible frame (70) is defined by a number of semi-cylindrical bodies (74) which are arranged transverse to an along a longitudinal axis (A) of said hull (2) and are laterally connected to each other.

27. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 23, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the ~~said~~ flexible frame (70) is defined by a box-shaped body (76) which is provided with an external shaped wall (77).

28. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~Claims 26 or 27~~, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ claim 26, wherein the ~~said~~ flexible frame (70) extends as far as a collar (61) of the ~~said~~ hull (2).

29. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the ~~said~~ control means (40) comprise a pair of vibrating elements (80) which are arranged on the opposite sides (3) of the ~~said~~ hull (2) and are provided with respective forks (81) which face one another with their tips.

30. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the ~~said~~ control means (40) comprise a pair of vibrating elements (80) which are arranged on the opposite sides (3) of said hull (2) and are provided with respective forks (81) which face one another with their tips.

31. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the ~~said~~ control means (40) comprise a concave wall (90) which is open towards the outside and which defines a shaped housing (91) which is arranged transverse to a longitudinal axis (A) of said hull (2).

32. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 31, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the ~~said~~ control means (40) comprise a cushion (92) made of gelatinous material which is arranged inside the ~~said~~ housing (91).

33. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the said control means (10) comprise two flat appendixes (100), ~~which~~ , which extend opposite the point (4), and which are suitable for progressively entering in contact with each other in order to increase the bending action of the hull (2).

34. (Currently Amended) Telemark according to ~~any of the preceding Claims~~ ~~whatsoever, characterised by the fact that~~ claim 1, wherein the said control means (10) comprise an elastic element (110) which is arranged inside the said hull (2) and which is suitable for exerting a supplementary elastic action.

35. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 34, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the said elastic element (110) is embedded in a sole (6) of said hull (2) and comprises two comb plates (111) which are hinged in relation to each other ~~in order to~~ form, in correspondence with a respective hinge (112), a torsion spring which is arranged transverse to a longitudinal axis (A) of the hull (2); the two comb plates (111) exerting a distending elastic action of the sole.

36. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 34, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the said elastic element (110) comprises two torsion springs (113) which present a common torsion axis (B) which is transverse to a longitudinal axis (A) of said hull (2) and two connecting bridges (114) which are arranged between the two opposite sides (3) of the hull (2) in order to connect between them the two torsion springs (113); the two torsion springs (113) exerting a distending elastic action of the sole (6).

37. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~any of the preceding Claims~~ ~~whatsoever, characterised by the fact that~~ claim 1, wherein the control means (10) comprise a shaped elastic plantar (120) which is provided with a flexible portion (121) which is arranged substantially in correspondence with said articulation (7), and with a compensating portion (122) which is arranged in an intermediate position between the flexible portion (121) ~~itself~~ and the point (4).

38. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 37, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the flexible portion (121) ~~presents~~ defines a cavity (123) which is open towards the sole (6) and which ~~presents~~ defines an apex of maximum depth which is substantially in correspondence with the articulation (7).

39. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~an of the preceding Claims whatsoever, characterised by the fact that~~ claim 1, wherein the control means (10) comprise an insert (130) which is applied to the sole (6) in such a way that it may be uncoupled, and which presents a number of overhanging outlines (131) for coupling and stiffening.

40. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 39, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the said overhanging outlines (131) are arranged transverse to the axis (A) in order to render the insert (13) integral with the sole (6), and they present determined shapes in order to modulate the bending action control characteristics of the means of control (10).

41. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~any of the preceding Claims whatsoever, characterised by the fact that~~ claim 1, wherein the means of control (10) comprise a stiffening fork (14) which is laterally associated with the sole (6).

42. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 41, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the said fork (140) comprises two arms (143) which are provided with respective shaped overhanging outlines (144) which are able to be ~~couplet~~ coupled to the said sole (6), and a connecting head (145) between the two arms (143) which ~~presents~~ includes variable dimensions.

43. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~any of the preceding Claims whatsoever, characterised by the fact that~~ claim 1, wherein the control means (10) comprise a bellows (150) which is arranged in correspondence with the flexible

articulation (7), and plate means (151) which are arranged on the side of the bellows (150) and which are made of plastic material or tissue ~~in order~~ to contribute to modifying the control characteristics of the control means (40) in relation to the bending action of the Telemark boot (1).

44. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 43, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the said plate means (151) comprise, for each side of the Telemark boot (1), two plates (151) which define a channel (159) in relation to each other and which is able to be filled with material of a determined density.

45. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 44, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein each plate 151 ~~presents~~ defines a respective notch (160), which is wedged inside the channel (159) in such a way as to replace the filling material of the channel (159) itself.

46. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~any of the preceding Claims whatsoever, characterised by the fact that~~ claim 1, wherein the control means (40) comprise a bellows (150), and a number of bulged elements (170, 171a, 171b) which are made of a material of a determined density and which are associated with the bellows (150) themselves.

47. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to Claim 46, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the first bulged element (170) of the said bulged elements (170, 171a, 171b) presents, in plan view, a substantially triangular shape, and extends along a median line of the hull (2) as far the bellows (150).

48. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~Claims 46 or 47, characterised by the fact that~~ claim 46, wherein a second and third bulged element (171a, 171b) of the said bulged elements (170, 171a, 171b) are arranged in correspondence with an end point (4) of the said hull (2) which is opposite the bellows (150) in relation to the first bulged element (170).



49. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~Claims 46 or 48, characterised by the fact that~~ claim 46, wherein the said bulged elements ~~(170, 171a, 171b)~~ present have a variable rigidity in relation to their own thickness and their own width, and they are preferably, ~~but not necessarily,~~ made of plastic material.

50. (Currently Amended) Telemark boot according to ~~any of the preceding Claims whatsoever, characterised by the fact that~~ claim 1, wherein the said control means ~~(10)~~ comprise a furrow ~~(180)~~ which is obtained through the end point ~~(4)~~ of the said hull ~~(2)~~, and a piezo-electric pad ~~(181)~~, which may be arranged in such a way as to fill the furrow ~~(180)~~ itself, and which is suitable for being heated in such a way as to obtain the deformation which is due to stress and bending action.